

Where to Report Abuse, Neglect, & Exploitation

Contact your local law enforcement agency, call the nearest Department of Social Services office listed below, or visit us on the web at www.dss.sd.govelderlyservices/services/adultprotective.

Members of South Dakota's Indian Tribes should note:

Tribal Ordinances may have different definitions of abuse, neglect, exploitation and different reporting requirements. Check with authorities in your area.

Department of Social Services' Adult Services and Aging Offices

Aberdeen
422 S. Washington,
PO Box 1300, 57401-1300
(605) 626-3145
1-866-239-8855

Huron
110 3rd St. SW,
Suite 200, 57350-2450
(605) 353-7112

Olivet
Hutchinson Cty Courthouse
140 E. Euclid, Rm 127, 57052
(605) 387-4219

Sisseton
119 E. Cherry Street,
PO Box 230, 57262
(605) 698-7673

Belle Fourche
609 5th Ave., 57717
(605) 892-2731

Lake Andes
3rd & Lake
PO Box 190, 57356
(605) 487-7607

Pierre
912 E. Sioux, 57501
(605) 773-3521

Sturgis
2200 W. Main Street,
57785
(605) 347-2588

Brookings
1310 South Main,
Suite 101, 57006
(605) 688-4330

Madison
223 S. Van Eps Ave.
Suite 201, 57042-2855
(605) 256-5683

Pine Ridge
Planning Center-Airport,
Hwy 18, PO Box 279, 57770-0279
(605) 867-2236

Vermillion
114 Market Street,
PO Box 516, 57069
(605) 677-6800

Chamberlain
320 Sorenson Drive,
57325-1022
(605) 734-4500

Mission
671 N. Marge Street
PO Box 818, 57555-0818
(605) 856-4431

Rapid City
510 N. Cambell
PO Box 2440, 57709
(605) 394-2434

Watertown
2001 9th Ave. SW,
Suite 300, PO Box 670,
57201
(605) 882-5003
1-866-239-6787

Deadwood
20 Cliff St.,
PO Box 607, 57732
(605) 578-2402

Mitchell
116 E. 11th Ave., 57301
(605) 995-8000

Redfield
Spink Cty Courthouse
210 E. 7th Ave., 57469
(605) 387-4219

Winner
649 W. Second Street,
57580
(605) 842-0400

Hot Springs
2500 Minnekahta Ave.,
Bldg.1, PO Box 729, 57747
(605) 745-5100

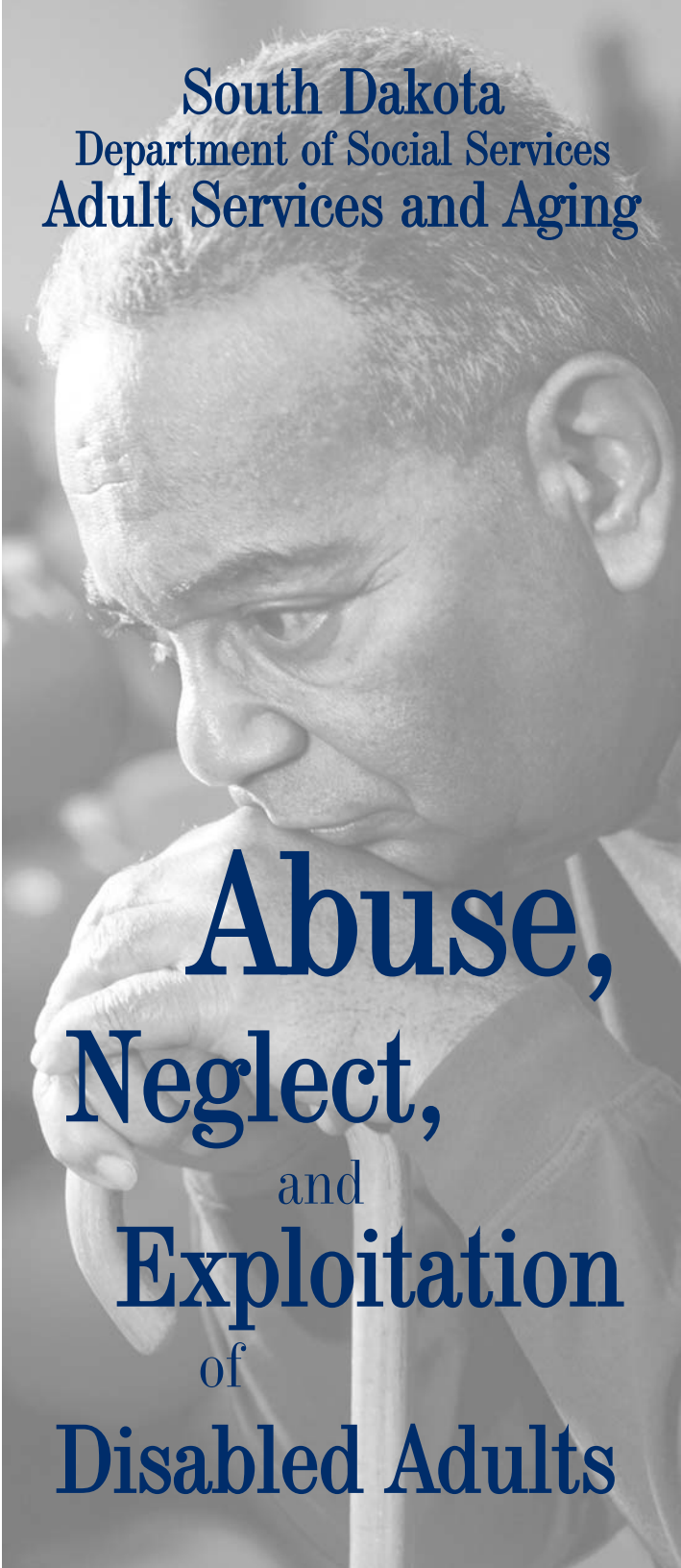
Mobridge
920 W. 6th Street,
PO Box 160, 57601
(605) 845-2922

Sioux Falls
811 E. 10th Street,
Dept. 4, 57103
(605) 367-5400

Yankton
3113 Spruce Street,
Suite 200, 57078
(605) 668-3030

DSS Nondiscrimination Policy: It is the policy of the Department of Social Services (DSS) to make sure that applications for program benefits and services are made available to everyone and that program benefits are granted to all who meet eligibility standards. DSS staff, programs and policies must not discriminate against clients or applicants for services because of race, color, sex, age, disability, religion and national origin. DSS must also provide fair and equal access to all of its programs and services for people with disabilities; this includes both physical access to buildings and access to programs and services. To file a complaint of discrimination write: DSS Division of Legal Services, 700 Governors Drive, Pierre, SD 57501-2291 or call: (605) 773-3305. If you have a question regarding program services, please contact your nearest DSS office. **5,000 copies of this document were printed by DSS at a cost of 11 cents per copy. DSS/3M/0806**

South Dakota Department of Social Services Adult Services and Aging



Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation of Disabled Adults

Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation of Disabled Adults

Any person age 18 or older who suffers from mental retardation, organic brain damage, advanced age or other physical disfunctioning to the extent that the person is no longer able to protect him or herself, or provide for his or her own care is protected under a law called “**Abuse, Neglect or Exploitation of Disabled Adults.**” (SDCL Chapter 22-46)

Abuse is defined as physical harm, bodily injury or attempts to cause physical harm or injury. It can also include inflicting fear or threat of imminent harm or bodily injury.

Neglect is harm to a disabled adult’s health or welfare, without reasonable medical justification, caused by the conduct of a person responsible for the disabled adult’s health or welfare, within the means available for the disabled adult. Neglect includes the failure to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter or medical care.

Exploitation is the wrongful taking or exercising control over a disabled adult’s property with intent to defraud him or her.

Signs

Some things to look for which may mean an adult needs protection are:

- Signs of physical injury; such as bruises and welts, burns, lacerations, scars, broken bones or serious internal injuries.
- Injuries that do not seem to fit the explanation given by the caretaker.
- Multiple injuries and injuries that are repeated or untreated.
- Use of forcible restraint or confinement for extended periods of time.
- Unreasonable refusal to allow travel or visits by friends.
- Lack of adequate clothing and good hygiene; the person may be dressed poorly for the weather, have persistent illnesses or is seldom bathed.
- Lack of adequate medical care or poor nutrition.
- Misuse of money or property for another person’s monetary or personal gain.
- Unauthorized sale of real or personal property.

Report

Report the following if you know or have reasonable cause to believe someone needs protection from abuse, neglect, or exploitation:

- Name, age and address of the adult who is in danger.
- Names and addresses of guardian or relatives, if known.
- Names of other people in the dwelling and the relationship to the adult, if any.
- Description of the situation causing the danger.
- Any other information which establishes the cause of the situation and the manner in which it occurred.

Please Note:

Immunity, civil and criminal, is available for good faith reports of employees, agents or members of medical or dental staff of facilities regulated by the Department of Health.

Reports of abuse, neglect or exploitation will be promptly investigated by trained staff. All reports are confidential.